

SPOON'S FEEDING AND NUTRITION PACKAGE FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN



CHALLENGE

Children with disabilities are three times more likely to be malnourished than children without disabilities, and twice as likely to die from malnutrition during childhood. Children living outside of permanent family care have rates of malnutrition as high as 91%, which can lead to illness, irreversible delays, further disability, and mortality.

What contributes to such high rates of malnutrition?

- Exclusion from community nutrition programs
- Lack of training on these children's unique nutrition and feeding needs
- Lack of systems to assess, treat, and monitor feeding and nutrition

SOLUTION

SPOON has built a nutrition and feeding package for organizations serving children with disabilities or children outside family care. It leads to

- greater capacity for caregivers, parents, and professionals;
- improved health of the children in your care;
- ongoing monitoring of their progress; and
- data you can share with your partners, funders, and other decision-makers.

We co-design the package with you to meet the specific needs of your organization and complement your existing interventions. We work with you to integrate new knowledge, skills, and tools into your standard of care, with a goal of having a feeding and nutrition program you are able to run independently.

THIS PACKAGE HAS THREE COMPONENTS



TRAINING



APP



DATA



TRAINING

We offer an interactive remote training especially targeted to those who support families and caregivers of children with disabilities and children outside of family care. Participants learn practical skills such as:

- Menu-planning for healthy growth
- Screening for—and addressing—common feeding difficulties for infants and children with disabilities
- Measuring children's growth, interpreting the results, and developing strategies to address malnutrition
- Feeding infants and children using best practices
- Conveying recommendations regarding feeding and nutrition to others

The training format is customized to meet the specific needs of your team. A common format includes weekly self-paced online courses, weekly check-ins with SPOON trainers over video conference or via forum discussion groups, Zoom demonstrations of technical skills such as feeding and growth measurement techniques, a final exam with a certificate, and quarterly consultation calls with SPOON trainers to troubleshoot emerging feeding and nutrition concerns for the year following training.

To implement the feeding and nutrition package you will need:

- internet-connected devices (phones, tablets, or computers)
- growth measurement equipment
- anemia monitoring equipment (if being used)
- a designated point person to coordinate training logistics with SPOON



APP

Following training, your team will have unlimited, lifetime use of our digital health app, *Count Me In*. It provides nutrition and feeding assessments, care plans for each child, and a variety of easy-to-read reports that allow your team to confidently assess children's growth and feeding and apply the recommended changes to their daily care.



DATA

Count Me In securely stores your data and generates reports in real time, showing the progress you are making in addressing malnutrition and feeding challenges. This anonymized data set can be included in SPOON's global advocacy, or we can support you as you utilize it to advocate to your partners, funders, and other decision-makers.

